

THE NEW YORK PRESS.

EDITORIAL OPINIONS OF THE LEADING JOURNALS UPON CURRENT TOPICS—COMPILED EVERY DAY FOR THE EVENING TELEGRAPH.

Prospect of a Reign of Terror in the South—How to Stop It.

From the Herald.

The news of the bloody collision on Saturday last at Franklin, Tennessee, between a Loyal League of black radicals and a hostile gathering of so-called conservatives, will have surprised no one possessed of any knowledge of the turbulence and fighting propensities which prevail among the leading politicians and their followers on both sides throughout the State. Parson Brownlow and his radical State Government, in their stringent measures of Rebel disfranchisement, Rebel disabilities and punishments for Rebel offenses, in addition to negro suffrage, and from their ferocious electioneering system against the so-called conservatives, as "the blood-hounds of Jeff. Davis," and "the dogs of the Rebellion," etc., have aroused a corresponding measure of hatred, wrath, and ferocity in the anti-Brownlow opposition party. The State election, which will embrace a Governor, a Legislature, and members of Congress, does not come off till August, and with five or six weeks more of agitation and lawning of these combatants, there is a prospect that election day in Tennessee will be a day of terror, bloodshed, and confusion throughout the State.

Intelligent men, detailed from this office, who have recently canvassed the Southern States for information touching their material, social, and political situation, report that Tennessee to-day is by far in the most disorderly, confused, and turbulent condition of any of the States concerned in the rebellion; and that Tennessee and Kentucky, of all the late slave States, are most in need of Congressional reconstruction from top to bottom. The one so excessively radical in its State administration as to call for the intervention of Congress; and the other so excessively State rights as to be nothing better than a chip of the old block of the Southern Confederacy.

The duty therefore devolving upon Congress, of "guaranteeing to each State a republican form of government," would seem to demand some positive legislation in behalf of Tennessee and Kentucky; and, outside of their borders, we dare say there will be but little complaint should Congress do what them in the new bill of Southern reconstruction. Meantime, it will be perceived, from an inflammatory Jacobin speech by a negro doctor of divinity, the Rev. Lewis Lindsay, at Midwell, in Virginia, that the idea of enforcing social equality is getting into the heads of the Southern blacks. Their representatives on the stump have recently, in various places South, been harping on the string of confiscation and free farms; but in striking that bold note of enforcing negro social equality, the Rev. Lewis Lindsay is touching more emphatically the sanguinary music of St. Domingo. In all these manifestations from the Southern blacks, and in the opposing spirit of the whites, we can see only, left to themselves, the gathering elements of a reign of terror and a war of races, and a war of extermination, too, in the South.

How is this to be prevented? Looking at the persecutions of the negroes in the unconstructed State of Kentucky, and at the prescriptions and proscriptions against Rebels in the only half reconstructed State of Tennessee, we think the ten excluded States have reason to be thankful that they are under the powerful protection of Congress and the army of the United States, and absolutely under their control. It is only by the military governments, too, of the five Southern districts, that the States embraced therein can be saved from that conflict of races which is now foreshadowed in the political organizations of their whites and blacks against each other. The military commanders over these districts, with their ample discretion and means for enforcing law and order, will be able to maintain the peace in suppressing all disturbances, whether on the part of the people of both races, in every State concerned, are brought to that degree of harmony which will justify the full restoration of their State authorities.

It is in this view of this important subject of Southern reconstruction that we commend to the Southern people the safety and the securities they now have, and which they will for some time yet possess, against a conflict of races and a reign of terror, in being under the direct guardianship of Congress, a military commander, and a national army. We have only to compare the law and order prevailing in Georgia with the disorder, violence, and terrorism prevailing in Tennessee, to understand the advantage of a military provisional government like that of General Pope over a too hastily and crudely reconstructed State government like that of Parson Brownlow.

The Last Fray in Tennessee. We are in the frequent receipt of both public and private complaints from either faction in Tennessee of the outrageous and sanguinary doings of the other. Usually, we believe both. That is to say, we believe the Brownlow "Unionists" are too hard on their "conservative" adversaries (who are mainly ex-Rebels) where they have a clear local preponderance; and we are very clear that the "conservatives" are at least as outrageous where they have the upper hand. The State this day ought to be under military rule, with General Thomas fully authorized and empowered to do whatever shooting and killing may be necessary. She was restored to self-government altogether too soon, though we thought otherwise at the time. We do not justify or excuse the Unionists when they do wrong; but it is very clear that the massacre at Franklin last Saturday was of "conservative" or Rebel origin. Look at the facts. Franklin is the shire town of Williamson county, which gave in June, 1861, an aggregate vote of 1949 for secession to 28 against it. It is of course a "conservative" stronghold, so far as its whites are concerned.

But it is a very fertile county, and had a large slave population—12,397 slaves to 11,400 free persons in 1860. Being in the Nashville Congress district, John Trimble, the radical candidate for Congress, held a meeting at Franklin, along with the radical candidates for the Legislature. The negroes were of course on hand. It is said that many of them were armed; it is very certain that they needed to be. It is not pretended, even by the "conservative" bulletin, that they used their arms till attacked, nor is any provocation for firing on them asserted. Now look at the fair account of the collision:—

"Last evening a fearful riot occurred at Franklin. A procession of colored men had been out to listen to a speech by their candidates for Congress, State Senate, etc., in the afternoon. Towards evening, there being much excite-

ment, the colored men marched to the music of fife and drum out to a grove, where they were addressed by a Union orator, who urged them to march back to their headquarters, and from there to disperse. They agreed to do so, it being now dark, and had nearly reached their destination when a volley from a dark-colored force was poured into their ranks that brought down eighteen of their men. The colored men returned the fire, and killed one man and wounded eight more."

Now scan the more "conservative" bulletin:—

"John Trimble, a candidate for Congress, and two candidates for the State Legislature, all radicals, had an appointment to speak yesterday at Franklin, Williamson county. A large number of persons, white and black, attended; among the latter, members of a Loyal League, about eighty in number, who paraded the streets in regalia, with a band of music, and armed, occasionally firing a salute. The candidates were heard without objection, the speaking being until about 10 o'clock. Subsequently, however, Trimble, when not present, was denounced on the public square, and a fire of shot and shrapnel was directed for some time being had. Much excitement arose, and symptoms of ill-feeling between some of the whites and colored League members developed. The League members retired in bad humor to a grove, where they were followed by a son of Dr. Cliffe, who, in a conciliatory address, advised them to disperse. They refused to do this, and marched back to their hall. By this time, night came on, and after storing away their regalia, etc., they left the hall and returned to the public square, where a collision immediately occurred. It is alleged that they were fired on by a party of white and colored conservatives, a man named Canty, a fiery man, being the first to fire. The fire was instantly returned. The affair lasted but a few moments—half a minute, perhaps. There appeared to be a volley in each direction, and a man named Canty, who was the death of Canty, who was shot through the heart, and the wounding of eight whites and eighteen blacks. Three of the latter are mortally wounded. Some of the wounded blacks are conservatives."

—We defy any fair man to compare those two accounts and say that "the conservatives" were not wanton and unprovoked aggressors. The meeting was none of theirs—they had free choice to stay away or attend and behave themselves. They did neither, but attacked the radicals murderously and without excuse. They "fired a volley," to which there was "a scattering reply"—net result, four killed and twenty-three wounded, most of them blacks, and nearly all radicals. Cannot such butcheries be stopped in Tennessee?

A Mexican Policy Demanded—New Perils Brewing.

From the Times.

We must have a Mexican policy. We have wanted it terribly during the last few years. It is demanded in our own interests as well as those of Mexico, in the interests of republican liberty and continental independence as well as in those of civilization. This policy must be liberal and vigorous; it must be definite; and it must be enforced.

If the difficulties and struggles of Mexico were over with the execution of Maximilian, we might perhaps, in view of the great events that have recently taken place, and the course we have pursued in their presence, consider it unnecessary to alter our conduct in any respect.

But so far is this from being the case, that, besides the plottings of factious chieftains to keep up the anarchy that serves the purposes of their ambition, ferocity, and greed, we apprehend there is danger of renewed difficulties with foreign powers, and difficulties of such a nature as to make it impossible for us to interfere in behalf of the Juárez Government. On Monday we had intelligence by Atlantic cable that an Austrian squadron had sailed for Mexico to obtain the body of Maximilian. Its mission is one which has the approval of honor, humanity, and justice. The Austrian Emperor could do nothing less for the memory of his brother, after it was ascertained that he had been sacrificed against the protests of civilized Europe, and the requests of the American Government. The object of the mission, we may suppose, will be sustained by our Government, and that with none the less energy because of the contempt which the Mexican authorities displayed for our appeal in behalf of Maximilian.

Before the close of this month the Austrian squadron will have arrived before Vera Cruz. If Maximilian's remains are still in the hands of his executioners, the demand therefor will be preferred to Juárez; and we may be sure that in the present temper of the Austrian Government and all the Governments of Europe, it will be preferred with something like feeling and determination. It is altogether useless to speculate as to the result. But we are sure that no one who knows Mexico would be astonished at her refusal to concede the demand, or at her attempting to dictate pecuniary conditions for the concession. What complications might then arise cannot be foreseen. It would be an easy thing for the Austrian vessels to seize the principal seaport of Mexico, Vera Cruz, and hold it until her just and humane demands were complied with. It would be easy for her to take revenge upon Mexico, and make that war-rant, anarchical, and miserable country suffer to such an extent that, as things now are, it would soon be left without even the shadow of a Government. It only requires some slight stimulus at this time to bring about a renewal of the war of factions which has been in abeyance for a short period, but which hundreds of blood-thirsty leaders are anxious to renew.

We only mention this as one of the probable dangers of Mexico. There are scores of others which may come in other shapes. And internal as well as foreign troubles are brewing. We have done a good deal to preserve her from them thus far. But even at the best we can act incoherently, and irregularly, and indefinitely. And an occasion may at any time arise when we cannot possibly take her part or uphold her conduct, especially as she is always more than ready to contemn our advice and spurn our counsels.

The subject of establishing an American policy towards Mexico was up in Congress on Monday in a variety of shapes. None of the propositions made was worthy of the occasion. It is not spasmodic outbursts of passion, or hasty and violent action, that is required. We do not wish to authorize filibustering, as Mr. Brooks proposes; nor do we wish to bolster up the existing and chronic anarchy, as others propose. We want a large, comprehensive statesmanship which is capable of producing a plan that will secure the permanent establishment of order and regular government in Mexico, and which at the same time will prevent her from becoming the prey of foreign powers. We believe Mexico is incapable of effecting this for herself, and we believe it can only be done through American influence or domination.

The Surratt Trial.

The fact that the general subject-matter of investigation is the same, and that the facts are sought to be proved by the same witnesses as on the great conspiracy trial before the military tribunal, ought to cause no statement in the interest taken by the public in the proceedings. If the edge of novelty is blunted, the more intelligent interest which citizens should feel in a sound and

honest administration of justice, should be quite as keenly aroused as during the famous trial by the tools and appointees of the War Department. The accused, whether innocent or guilty, has not the ordinary and equitable chances of an accused person in a criminal court. It is necessary to convict him in order to vindicate the Government in the extraordinary proceedings by which it procured the condemnation of the other alleged conspirators. If Surratt should be acquitted, the War Department would be convicted of murder and the subornation of perjury. It is perhaps to gain time for precautions against such a contingency that the trial has been, on one pretense and another, so long deferred. We know not whether witnesses for the Government have been trained in a rehearsal, but it is certain that time enough has elapsed for a training and rehearsal. We have no direct evidence that Secretary Stanton has taken any active part in the preparation for this trial, but it is certain that the eminent criminal lawyer employed by the Government to conduct it is one of Mr. Stanton's closest and most intimate friends. We have no proof that improper influences have been brought to bear upon witnesses, but it has come out that a female witness from Montreal is paid twenty dollars a day, besides her expenses, to come to Washington to testify. We repeat that the prisoner, whether innocent or guilty, has not the ordinary chances for his life when his conviction is necessary for clearing a powerful Government from odium. It is not merely this man Surratt that is on trial; the War Department and its infamous Military Commission are on trial. They are powerful and the prisoner is helpless. While the public can have no desire to clear him if guilty, it is bound, in the interest of justice, to watch the progress of the trial, and compare it, in all its parts, with the proceedings before the Military Commission.

The most important witness for the prosecution yet examined is Weichman, and it comes out, in his cross-examination, that he has gone through a studied and elaborate rehearsal for the occasion. In answering the questions by which this fact was elicited he shuffled and evaded, and the evidence was fairly extorted. Since it is true that he studied and got up his part with so much elaboration, why, if he be an honest witness, was he unwilling when questioned on the point to frankly acknowledge the facts? Why did he shuffle and squirm and resort to subtleties? Has he modified the evidence he gave in the conspiracy trial because he was conscious that the parts he had altered would not stand the test of a rigid cross-examination? He pretends that his recollection is clearer and more precise after the lapse of two years than it was when the facts were fresh after the interval of a month! The reason he gives for his confusion and misrecollection at the conspiracy trial, that when the facts were recent his memory of them was disturbed by excitement. But if nearest to the events confused him after the lapse of a month, what reliance can be placed upon the coolness of his observation while the facts were transpiring? Are not the discrepancies more naturally accounted for by supposing him a dishonest witness? There are many points in the testimony he has given on cross-examination that look suspicious; but as these will be noticed in the summing up of the prisoner's counsel, it is not necessary to particularize them here.

If the evidence which has thus far been given is not shaken by counter-evidence, and is believed by the jury, it will go hard with the prisoner. We are not, however, to let our readers should prejudice the case, much less that Surratt should escape if he is guilty; but the case is so peculiar, and the influences arrayed against the prisoner so powerful, that it seems due to justice that the public should attend to and scrutinize the evidence, and lend an attentive ear to the testimony for the defense.

TEA. This famous beverage was severely abused for long after its introduction into this country. Its use is described, in 1678, as a "base, unworthy Indian custom." In 1746 a physician wrote that as Hippocrates spared no pains to root out the Athenian plague, so he had himself used his art on every instance of the obnoxious tea drinking madness of importing tea into Europe from China. And a few years earlier the *Grub Street Journal* attacked it with considerable violence, declaring that even "were it entirely wholesome as balsam or mint, it were very injurious to have a whole population used to sip warm water in an effeminate, mewing manner, once or twice every day." Under the influence of this abominable liquor, the same writer declares that "women become barren; or, if they breed, their blood is rendered so weak that they are not strong to suckle. Jonas Hanway wrote a treatise against tea, in Dr. Johnson's time, and that vast consumer took up the cudgels for that elegant and popular beverage (Boswell), even going so far, in every instance, to oblige his life, his biographer believes, as to answer the rejoinder Hanway made.

Johnson was an utterly insatiable tea drinker. "hardened and shameless" he called himself, "with tea amusing the evening, the tea soothing the midnight, with tea welcoming the morning." It is he who is responsible for the late date, 1666, of the introduction of its use in England, and for the noble patronage under which it is said to have made its first appearance in this country. The late consumer in words which would infinitely have exasperated him into calling his today a fool, had they been published in his lifetime:—"The quantities of it which he drank at all hours were so great that his nerves must have been uncommonly strong, not to have been extremely relaxed by such immoderate use of it." But of all detractors of this excellent soother and stimulant, no one has more thoroughly essayed a hip-and-high slaughter than Cobbett-Cobbett and he, on every occasion, he has been to it as food for the laboring classes, and the Edinburgh *Review* endorsed most of his arguments, stating its firm belief that a "prohibition, absolute and uncompromising, of the noxious beverage, is the first step to wards insuring health and strength to the poor, and asserting that 'when a laborer fancied himself refreshed with a mess of this stuff, sweetened by the coarsest black sugar and by azure blue milk, it is only the warmth of the water that soothes him for the moment, unless perhaps the sweetness may be palatable also.'"

Cobbett proved, in a manner conclusive to his mind, that the use of tea entailed a very unnecessary waste of time and money, in which view he might have found support from the *Familie Spectator* of 1745, when a writer declared that the tea-plant "cost more to support than would maintain two children at nurse," though eight years later that date the country rector with a London wife state that less than a pound lasted them a week, and that they were "not contented to the best company. The Quarterly had taken a different tone about tea, as might have been expected, allowing indeed that it relieves the pains of hunger "rather by mechanical distensions than by supplying the wants of nature," but by adding "of calm, placid, and benignant exhilaration, gently stimulating the stomach when fatigued by digestive exertions, and serving as an appropriate diluent of the chyle."

The Queen of Prussia has arrived in England on a visit to Queen Victoria. It will be remembered that the eldest son of the Queen of Prussia, and the heir to the throne, is married to Queen Victoria's eldest daughter; so the visit will be of a family and somewhat informal character.

SUMMER RESORTS.

SURF HOUSE, ATLANTIC CITY, N. J.

The above House was opened on the 1st of JUNE. For particulars, see, address

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The geographical position of Cape Island is in itself a peculiar feature, when properly understood. Situated in the center of the peninsula of the State, and occupying a neck of land at the confluence of the Delaware Bay with the Atlantic Ocean, it becomes entirely surrounded by salt water, hence favored by continual breezes from the sea.

The beautiful view of the Ocean, the Delaware Bay, and picturesque back country, looking in Cape Henlopen at a distance of sixteen miles. The beach is acknowledged to surpass and outstrip any other point upon the Atlantic coast, being of smooth, compact sand, which declines so gently to the surf that even a child can wade with security.

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The distance from Philadelphia to Cape Island is 161 miles by rail, and about the same distance by steamer down the Bay, and by either route the facilities for travel promise to be of excellent character.

The Island has Hotel and Boarding-house accommodations for about ten thousand persons. The leading Hotels are in Columbia, owned by George J. Bolton as proprietor; Congress Hall, with J. F. G. as proprietor; and Union Station, with West and Miller as proprietors. All under the management of gentlemen who have well-established reputations as Hotel men.

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AMUSEMENTS.

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SUNDAY, July 14.—Recreation. MONDAY, July 15.—Rehearsal, and Concert at Academy of Music in the evening.

TUESDAY, July 16.—Concert at Academy of Music in the evening.

WEDNESDAY, July 17.—Gigantic Picnic at Washington Retreat and Hotel & Boarding-house accommodations for about ten thousand persons. The leading Hotels are in Columbia, owned by George J. Bolton as proprietor; Congress Hall, with J. F. G. as proprietor; and Union Station, with West and Miller as proprietors. All under the management of gentlemen who have well-established reputations as Hotel men.

THURSDAY, July 18.—Close of Festival. Season Tickets \$1 for one party of 10 to be had at Trumpier's, Seventh and Chestnut Streets, No. 1239 Chestnut Street, Room, No. 411 South Second Street, and of the Managers, Members, and Committees. 7 26

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